Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this

application after a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but

before the filing of a Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or

the commencement of a civil action. Since this application is eligible for continued

examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been

timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution

in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's

submission filed on March 22, 2010 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

        Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with James F. Thompson (Reg. No. 36,699) on April 9, 2010.

        The application has been amended as follows:

        In the claims:

        Claim 95. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for handling a request for a network

address allocation, comprising: respective interfaces to a host and an address allocation

device; a central processing unit coupled the interfaces; and memory coupled to the

central processing unit, the memory ~~being operative to store~~ stores (1) information

including a list of host identifiers, and (2) computer programs including a packet parser

and a packet composer, wherein the central processing unit ~~is operative to execute~~

executes the packet parser and packet composer computer programs to cause the

apparatus to perform a method including: receiving the request from the host; retrieving

a host identifier from the request; matching said host identifier with the list of host

identifiers; maintaining a state of authentication for the host associated with said host

identifier if a match is found; inserting a proxy address in a relay agent address field in

the request; transmitting said request to an address allocation device to issue or renew

a host address if said host associated with said host identifier is in a state of

authentication; receiving a response from said address allocation device; modifying a

value in a server identifier field in said response to match said proxy address; and

transmitting said response to said host associated with said host identifier.

Claim 102. (Currently Amended) A DHCP proxy for handling a DHCP discovery

packet, comprising: respective interfaces to a host and an address allocation device; a

central processing unit coupled to the interfaces; and memory coupled to the central

processing unit, the memory ~~being operative to store~~ stores (1) information including a

list of host identifiers, and (2) computer programs including a packet parser and a

packet composer, wherein the central processing unit ~~is operative to execute~~ executes

the packet parser and packet composer computer programs to cause the apparatus to

perform a method including: retrieve the DHCP packet from the host; retrieving a host

identifier from the DHCP discovery packet; matching said host identifier with the list of

host identifiers; maintaining a state of authentication for the host associated with said

host identifier if a match is found; inserting a proxy address in a gateway IP address

(GIADDR) field in the DHCP discovery packet; transmitting the DHCP discovery packet

to an address allocation device to issue or renew a host address if said host associated

with said host identifier is in a state of authentication; receiving a DHCP offer packet

from said address allocation device; modifying a value in a server identifier address

(SJADDR) field in said DHCP offer packet to match said proxy address; and

transmitting said DHCP offer packet to said host associated with said host identifier.

3.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: please, refer

to the reasons for allowance indicated in the Non-Final Office Action date May 30, 2006.

        Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

        Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to NIKETA I. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-

4156. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M, with every

other Friday off.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Alford Kindred can be reached on (571) 272 4037. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Niketa I. Patel/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2181